FIVE-VOWEL LANGUAGE

Official Master Specification

Version 1.0.1

Five sounds. Five marks. One language.

Release	Master Specification
Status	Official public Version 1.0.1
Type	Minimalist constructed language
Phonemes	5 lexical vowels
Native glyphs	5 elementary marks
Writing direction	Top-to-bottom; columns left-to-right
Active lexical forms	308
Native numeral system	Base five
Core objective	Maximum communicative clarity with minimal articulatory, graphic, and grammatical complexity

Canonical notice: Version 1.0.1 is a clarification and consistency revision of Version 1.0 and supersedes all pre-1.0 developmental drafts.

Contents

1. Overview and Design Principles
2. Sound System and Pronunciation
3. Native Writing System
4. Core Grammar
5. Numbers and Quantity
6. Advanced Grammar and Discourse
7. Compounds, Clarity, and Vocabulary Growth

7.4 Proper Names and Borrowings

Proper names may be adapted into A, E, I, O, and U sequences for native speech and writing. An adapted name must obey the no-identical-adjacent-vowel rule within the name. UIU (“name”) may introduce a name when context does not make its status obvious. A community should keep a person or place’s chosen adaptation stable once established. Roman-letter source spellings may be retained alongside the native adaptation in bilingual or scholarly material.

8. Safety and Communication Repair
9. Beginner Learning Path
10. Complete Version 1.0 Lexicon
11. Examples and Sample Texts
12. Retired Forms and Version Policy

Revision note: Version 1.0.1 corrects and clarifies presentation issues found during consistency review; it does not remap any active Version 1.0 word.

Appendix A. Quick Reference

1. Overview and Design Principles

Five-Vowel Language is a minimalist constructed language built entirely from the five vowel phonemes A, E, I, O, and U. Its native alphabet uses only a horizontal line, a vertical line, two diagonal lines, and a loop. The system is designed to minimize articulatory, handwriting, reading, and grammatical complexity while retaining the ability to express complex thought. Claims about comparative ease—especially for infants, children, or accessibility use—are design goals to be tested empirically rather than assumptions of Version 1.0.1.

1.1 Core Design Priorities

1. Communicative clarity
2. Ease of pronunciation
3. Ease of hearing
4. Ease of handwriting
5. Ease of reading
6. Ease of acquisition
7. Regularity
8. Brevity

Brevity is deliberately last. A longer expression is preferred whenever it is more reliable or easier to understand.

1.2 What the Language Deliberately Omits

- lexical consonants
- grammatical gender
- noun cases
- verb conjugation
- irregular verbs
- agreement morphology
- obligatory articles
- capitalization
- lexical stress
- lexical tone
- lexical vowel length
- diphthongs
- relative-pronoun grammar
- passive morphology
- infinitive morphology
- adverb morphology
- mandatory quotation marks, question marks, or exclamation marks

1.3 Canonical Principle

Use five easy sounds, five easy marks, simple words, fixed relationships, and as many short sentences as necessary to make the meaning unmistakable.

2. Sound System and Pronunciation

Romanization	IPA	Native glyph
A	/a/	\
E	/e/	-
I	/i/	|
O	/o/	o
U	/u/	/

2.1 One Vowel, One Beat

The five reference vowel qualities are /a e i o u/. Accent variation is acceptable when the five categories remain reliably distinguishable; speakers do not need to imitate one particular national accent.

Every written vowel is pronounced independently. Neighboring vowels never merge into diphthongs. AI is /a.i/, AU is /a.u/, and OI is /o.i/.

2.2 Non-Lexical Prosody

Stress, pitch, loudness, and vowel duration may express emotion or emphasis, but none of them changes lexical identity.

2.3 No-Repeat Rule

Inside a single word, the same vowel may never occur twice consecutively. AEA, AIAI, and UIOU are legal; AA, EII, and UOO are illegal. The restriction does not apply across a word boundary. The rule also provides a simple error-detection cue in speech and cursive writing.

2.4 Spoken Word Boundaries

In careful speech, a written word space is realized as a short glottal interruption [ʔ]. The glottal boundary is not a sixth lexical phoneme; it is the spoken equivalent of a space. A simple pause may substitute when the boundary remains clear. This boundary is especially important when one word ends in the same vowel with which the next word begins: the two vowels remain separate words and must not fuse into one long vowel.

AE EIE AI — I see you. Approximate careful speech: a-e ʔ e-i-e ʔ a-i.

3. Native Writing System

3.1 Writing Direction

Words are written vertically from top to bottom. When a column is complete, the next column begins at the top immediately to its right. Page progression is therefore left-to-right while character progression is top-to-bottom.

3.2 Printed Glyphs

Vowel	Glyph	Motion
A	\	descending diagonal
E	-	horizontal stroke
I	|	vertical stroke
O	o	loop
U	/	opposite diagonal

Each symbol conceptually occupies an invisible square cell. Exact geometry is not meaningful; a slightly curved or uneven mark remains valid if its intended category is clear.

3.3 Example Vertical Word

Romanized: AEIOU

\
-
|
o
/

3.4 Spacing

Boundary	Recommended visual treatment
word	about 1 empty letter cell
sentence	about 3 empty letter cells
paragraph	preferably begin at the top of the next column

Mandatory punctuation is not part of the core script. Questions are marked by O, urgency by repetition and voice, and sentence structure by spacing.

Because writing runs downward, word and sentence spaces are vertical gaps within a column. A sentence gap is deliberately longer than a word gap. Paragraphs should normally begin at the top of a new column when space permits.

3.5 Cursive

A cursive word is ideally written as one continuous pen-down gesture. The pen lifts between words, so the written break corresponds to the spoken word boundary. Short curved connectors may join vowel glyphs within a word; connectors have no sound and should not imitate a full vowel stroke. A closed or nearly closed loop is O, while an open curve is only a connector. If identical vowel strokes

occur on opposite sides of a word boundary, they remain visibly broken rather than becoming one uninterrupted stroke.

4. Core Grammar

4.1 Fundamental Particles

Form	Function
A	past
E	future
I	no / not
O	question
U	plural / multiple

4.2 Pronouns

Form	Meaning
AE	I / me
AI	you
AO	we / us
AU	they / them

4.3 Demonstratives and Relations

Form	Meaning
EA	this / current referent
EI	that / previous referent
EO	who
EU	what
IA	yes
IE	and
IO	or
IU	of / belonging to
OA	with
OE	to / toward
OI	from / away from

4.4 Basic Clause Order

The default clause order is SUBJECT - PREDICATE - OBJECT. Words do not inflect for person, number, case, gender, or tense.

AE EIE AI — I see you.

AI EIE AE — You see me.

4.5 No Mandatory Copula

A quality, state, location, or possession can serve directly as the predicate without an equivalent of English am/is/are.

AE OAEA — I am happy.

IAI OEA — Water is cold.

EA AOIU — This is safe.

4.6 Tense

A marks past and E marks future when they occur in the tense position before the predicate complex. Present or contextually obvious time is unmarked. When an explicit time word already fixes temporal reference, tense marking may be omitted. Because A and E are also ordinary standalone forms, spacing and clause position determine their grammatical function.

AE EAE — I go / I am going.

AE A EAE — I went.

AE E EAE — I will go.

UAIO AE EUIO — Tomorrow I come / I will come tomorrow.

4.7 Negation

I negates the immediately following constituent, giving the language clear local negation scope.

AE I EAE — I do not go.

AE I EAEA EAE — I cannot go.

AE EAEA I EAE — I can refrain from going.

4.8 Questions

O at the end of a clause questions that clause. Word order does not invert.

AI EUIO O — Are you coming?

Question	Form
Who?	EO O
What?	EU O
Where?	IUI O
When?	UAO O
Why?	UOU O
How?	UEAI O

4.9 Plurality

U marks plurality when plurality matters and is not already explicit from a numeral or context.

U AEA — people

U AEI — children

4.10 Modification

Modifiers follow the concept they describe. The same quality root can modify either a thing or an action; no separate adverb class is required.

AOA OAO — big animal

IAI OEA — cold water

EIO OUEU — speak slowly

4.11 Possession

Possession is POSSESSED + IU + POSSESSOR.

IEA IU AE — my tool

IOI IU AI — your home

IEOA IU AEU IU AE — my friend's book

4.12 Commands

Commands normally omit the subject. Negative commands place I before the action.

EAE — Go.

EUIO — Come.

EOIU — Stop.

EAEO — Sit.

EAEU — Stand.

EAIU — Wait.

I EAE — Don't go.

4.13 Ability and Necessity

AE EAEA EAE — I can go.

AE I EAEA EAE — I cannot go.

AI EAEI EUI — You need to sleep.

5. Numbers and Quantity

The native numeral system is base five. The five remaining two-vowel forms are digits.

Digit	Form
0	OU
1	UA
2	UE
3	UI
4	UO

Decimal	Base 5	Language
0	0	OU
1	1	UA
2	2	UE
3	3	UI
4	4	UO
5	10	UA OU
6	11	UA UA
7	12	UA UE
8	13	UA UI
9	14	UA UO
10	20	UE OU
25	100	UA OU OU

Numerals precede nouns. A numeral makes the plural particle unnecessary.

UE AOA — two animals

UA OU AEA — five people

5.1 Ordinals

UOA means order/sequence. Number + UOA forms an ordinal.

UA UOA — first

UE UOA — second

5.2 Comparison and Degree

EA OAO UOAE EI — This is bigger than that.

EA OEA UIUA EI — This is less cold than that.

EA OIO UOAE UOE — This is the best; literally, “this [is] good more [than] all.”

OEA OEA — very cold

OEA OEA OEA — extremely cold

6. Advanced Grammar and Discourse

6.1 Proposition Marker UIEO

UIEO introduces a complete proposition that functions as an idea or argument of another predicate. UIEO complements normally occur at the end of their governing clause and branch to the right.

AE EIU UIEO AI EUIO — I know that you are coming.

AE EUIE UIEO EA OIO — I think that this is good.

AE EIU UIEO AI EUIE UIEO AU A EUIO — I know that you think that they came.

6.2 Embedded Questions

UIEO O introduces an embedded yes/no question. A final O may independently question the outer clause.

AE I EIU UIEO O AI A EAE — I do not know whether you went.

AI EIU UIEO O AU A EUIO O — Do you know whether they came?

6.3 Uncertainty and Counterfactuality

UOEU AI EUIO — Maybe you are coming.

UIOU marks an explicitly unreal, imagined, or contrary-to-fact proposition. It may also establish a fictional discourse context.

UEAU UIOU AE EOU IAI AE UIOU EUA IAI — If I had water, I would drink it.

6.4 Conditions and Cause

UEAU AI EUIO AE EAE — If you come, I go.

AE EUE UEOA AE OAIU — I eat because I am hungry.

UOU UAI — therefore / consequently

6.5 Sentence Chaining

Five-Vowel Language deliberately prefers short chained propositions over complex relative-clause syntax. EA and EI can refer to current or previously established entities, or a noun can simply be repeated. Repetition is stylistically neutral.

English: The person who gave me the book is my friend.

AEA A EOA IEOA OE AE — A person gave me a book.

AEA EI AEU IU AE — That person is my friend.

6.6 Complexity Escape Rule

Whenever a sentence becomes difficult to construct or parse, end it, begin another sentence, and refer back explicitly with EA, EI, or the repeated noun. This is an official grammatical strategy, not a workaround.

6.7 No Infinitive or Passive Morphology

AE EUO UIEO AE EAE — I want to go. Literally: I want [statement: I go].

AE EUO UIEO AI AUAU AU — I want you to help them.

A EUE IOA — The food was eaten / an unspecified actor ate the food. (Agent omitted.)

6.8 Concept-Based Lexemes

Roots primarily represent concepts rather than rigid word classes. OAOI can mean true or truth; AUE can express death, dead, or die according to position and context. This minimizes derivational morphology.

7. Compounds, Clarity, and Vocabulary Growth

7.1 Transparent Compounds

Productive compounds remain separate words and normally follow HEAD + MODIFIER. They are transparent phrases rather than new fused lexical forms, so each component retains its ordinary pronunciation and spelling.

IEA IOU — writing / marking tool

IEO IAI — water container

IUEO IAI — water vehicle / boat

IUEU IOA OEA — cold-food machine / refrigerator

IUI AUAO — medicine place / hospital

7.2 Vocabulary-Creation Order

9. Use an existing broad root.
10. Add a modifier.
11. Build a transparent multiword expression.
12. Use negation if it expresses the concept naturally.
13. Create a new short root only when the concept is common enough to justify memorization and after checking for collisions.

7.3 Clarity Forms

A short conventional word may have a longer transparent clarity form for scheduling, teaching, noise, or high-consequence communication.

UAIO — tomorrow

UAEA UAI — day after — clarity form of tomorrow

UAIE — yesterday

UAEA UAE — day before — clarity form of yesterday

8. Safety and Communication Repair

8.1 Protected Vocabulary

Form	Meaning
I	no
IA	yes
EAE	go
EUIO	come
EOIU	stop
AUAU	help
AUEA	danger
AOIU	safe
IAE	fire
AUO	pain
OEAI	left
OUIE	right
UEOI	up
UOUI	down

8.2 Emergency Repetition

One occurrence is ordinary; two intensify; three repetitions are used as an urgent alarm in safety contexts.

EOIU EOIU EOIU — STOP!

AUAU AUAU AUAU — HELP!

AUEA AUEA AUEA — DANGER!

IAE IAE IAE — FIRE!

8.3 Repair Expressions

EIO UAOE — Say it again.

EIO OUEU — Speak slowly.

UIA EU O — What word?

9. Beginner Learning Path

Stage	Goal
Stage 1	Learn the five vowel sounds A E I O U.
Stage 2	Learn the five marks \, -, |, o, /.
Stage 3	Learn ten survival words: I, IA, AE, AI, IAI, IOA, EAE, EUIO, EOIU, AUAU.
Stage 4	Learn the five grammar particles A, E, I, O, U.
Stage 5	Learn subject-predicate-object order and post-head modifiers.
Stage 6	Learn common three-vowel roots.
Stage 7	Learn transparent compounds and sentence chaining.
Stage 8	Learn UIEO, UEAU, UEOA, UOEU, and UIOU for advanced thought.

Child telegraphic speech is accepted developmentally. AE IAI (“me water”) may communicate a request before the full AE EUO IAI (“I want water”) is acquired. The learner does not need to abandon a separate baby grammar later.

10. Complete Version 1.0 Lexicon

The active Version 1.0.1 lexicon contains exactly 308 forms. No lexical assignments changed in this revision. Meanings below are canonical English glosses; a root may cover closely related conceptual uses where context makes them natural.

10.1 One- and Two-Vowel Forms

Form	Meaning
A	past
E	future
I	no / not
O	question
U	plural / multiple
AE	I / me
AI	you
AO	we / us
AU	they / them
EA	this / this one
EI	that / previous referent
EO	who
EU	what
IA	yes
IE	and
IO	or
IU	of / belonging to
OA	with
OE	to / toward
OI	from / away from
OU	digit 0
UA	digit 1
UE	digit 2
UI	digit 3
UO	digit 4

10.2 A-Domain — Life, People, Bodies, Health

Form	Meaning
AEA	person / human
AEI	child
AEO	parent
AEU	friend

Form	Meaning
AIA	body
AIE	head
AIO	hand
AIU	mouth
AOA	animal
AOE	plant
AOI	tree
AOU	insect
AUA	birth / be born
AUE	death / die / dead
AUI	health / healthy
AUO	pain / injury
AEAE	family
AEAI	sibling
AEAO	mother
AEAU	father
AEIA	adult
AEIE	baby / infant
AEIO	partner / mate
AEIU	stranger
AEOA	guest
AIAE	eye
AIAI	ear
AIAO	nose
AIAU	face
AIEA	arm
AIEI	leg
AIEO	foot
AIEU	stomach / belly
AIOA	blood
AIOE	skin
AOAE	bird
AOAI	fish
AOAO	mammal
AOAU	flower
AOEA	grass
AOEI	fruit
AOEO	seed
AOEU	forest

Form	Meaning
AOIA	egg
AOIE	alive / living
AUAE	sick / ill
AUAI	wound
AUAO	medicine
AUAU	help
AUEA	danger
AUEO	strong
AUEU	weak
AUIA	breath
AUIE	heart
AOIU	safe

10.3 E-Domain — Actions and Processes

Form	Meaning
EAE	go
EAO	move
EIE	see
EIA	hear
EIO	speak / say
EIU	know / understand
EOE	take / get
EOA	give
EOI	make / create
EOU	have / possess
EUE	eat
EUA	drink
EUI	sleep
EUO	want / desire
EAEA	can / able
EAEI	need / must
EAEO	sit
EAEU	stand
EAIA	fall
EAIE	rise / get up
EAIO	turn
EAIU	wait
EAOA	return
EAOE	follow

Form	Meaning
EUIO	come
EOIU	stop
EAUA	begin / start
EUOU	finish / complete
EIAE	look / watch
EIAI	listen
EIAO	touch
EIAU	feel by touch
EIEA	smell
EIEI	taste
EIEO	ask
EIEU	answer
EIOA	read
EIOE	write
EUIE	think / believe
EOAE	hold
EOAI	put / place
EOAO	open
EOEA	cut
EOEI	break
EOEO	join / connect
EOEU	wash
EOIA	use
EOIE	carry
EIOU	close
EUAE	play
EUAI	work
EUAO	cook
EUAU	buy
EUEA	sell
EUEI	pay
EUEO	find
EUEU	lose
EUIA	choose

10.4 I-Domain — Physical World, Objects, Nature, Materials

Form	Meaning
IAI	water

Form	Meaning
IAE	fire
IAO	air
IAU	earth / ground
IEI	thing / object
IEA	tool
IEO	container
IEU	clothing
IOI	home / shelter
IOA	food
IOE	path / road
IOU	mark / symbol
IUI	place / location
IUA	sky
IUE	light
IUO	stone / rock
IAEA	rain
IAEI	snow
IAEO	wind
IAEU	cloud
IAIA	river
IAIE	sea / ocean
IAIO	mountain
IAIU	sun
IAOA	moon
IAOE	star
IEAE	table
IEAI	chair
IEAO	bed
IEAU	door
IEIA	window
IEIE	cup
IEIO	bowl
IEIU	bag
IEOA	book
IEOE	paper
IOAE	meat
IOAI	fruit as food
IOAO	vegetable / edible plant

Form	Meaning
IOAU	grain
IOEA	milk
IOEI	salt
IOEO	sweet food
IOEU	meal
IOIA	money
IOIE	gift
IUAE	wood
IUAI	metal
IUAO	cloth / fabric
IUAU	glass
IUEA	rope / cord
IUEI	wheel
IUEO	vehicle
IUEU	machine
IUIA	phone / communication device

10.5 O-Domain — Qualities, States, Emotions, Appearance

Form	Meaning
OAO	big
OAE	small
OAI	long
OAU	short
OEO	hot
OEA	cold
OEI	bright
OEU	dark
OIO	good
OIA	bad
OIE	easy
OIU	hard / difficult
OUO	full
OUA	empty
OUE	same
OUI	different
OAEA	happy
OAEI	sad
OAEO	afraid
OAEU	angry

Form	Meaning
OAIA	calm
OAIE	tired
OAIO	awake
OAIU	hungry
OAOA	thirsty
OAOE	nauseated / feeling sick
OAOU	love / affection
OAOI	true / truth / factually correct
OEAE	soft
OEAI	left
OEAU	heavy
OEIA	lightweight
OEIE	wet
OEIO	dry
OEIU	clean
OEOA	dirty
OEOE	loud
OUIE	right
OIAE	red
OIAI	orange
OIAO	yellow
OIAU	green
OIEA	blue
OIEI	purple
OIEO	white
OIEU	black
OIOA	brown
OIOE	gray
OUAE	round
OUAI	straight
OUAO	flat
OUAU	sharp
OUEA	smooth
OUEI	rough
OUEO	fast
OUEU	slow
OUIA	old

10.6 U-Domain — Time, Relations, Quantity, Abstract Grammar

Form	Meaning
UAU	now
UAE	before
UAI	after
UAO	time
UEU	inside
UEA	above / on
UEI	below / under
UEO	near
UIU	name
UIA	word
UIE	language
UIO	thought / idea
UOU	reason / cause
UOA	order / sequence
UOE	all / whole
UOI	part / piece
UAEA	day
UAEI	night
UAEO	morning
UAEU	evening
UAIA	today
UAIE	yesterday
UAIO	tomorrow
UAIU	early
UAOA	late
UAOE	again
UEAE	between
UEAI	manner / way
UEAO	beside / next to
UEAU	if
UEIA	front
UEIE	through
UEIU	around
UEOA	because
UEOI	up
UOUI	down
UIAE	hello / greeting
UIAI	goodbye / farewell

Form	Meaning
UIAO	thanks / gratitude
UIAU	sorry / apology
UIEA	back / behind
UIEI	request
UIEU	story
UIOA	number
UIOE	color
UIEO	proposition / statement / clause
UIOU	unreal / counterfactual
UIUE	promise / commitment
UOAE	more
UIUA	less
UOAO	enough
UOAU	some
UOEA	none
UOEI	many
UOEO	few
UOEU	maybe / perhaps
UOIA	always
UOIE	never

11. Examples and Sample Texts

11.1 Basic Conversation

UIAE — Hello.

AI OIO O — Are you well?

IA AE OIO — Yes. I am well.

AI EUO IAI O — Do you want water?

IA — Yes.

AE EOA IAI OE AI — I give water to you.

UIAO — Thanks.

11.2 Short Narrative

UAIE AE A EAE OE AOEU — Yesterday I went to the forest.

AE A EIE AOAE OIAE — I saw a red bird.

AOAE EI A EUIO OE AE — That bird came toward me.

AE A EAE OI AOAE EI — I went away from that bird.

UAI EI AE OAEA — After that I was happy.

11.3 Complex Thought

AE EIU UIEO AI EUIE UIEO AU A EUIO — I know that you think that they came.

11.4 Counterfactual

UEAU UIOU AE EIU UIEO EA AUEA AE UIOU I EAE — If I had known that this was dangerous, I would not have gone.

11.5 Public Sample

UIAE — Hello.

UIU AE AEOI — My name is AEOI.

AE OAOU UIE EA — I love this language.

12. Retired Forms and Version Policy

The following forms occurred in pre-1.0 development but are not active Version 1.0 vocabulary. They remain reserved so historical materials do not create accidental homonymy.

Retired form	Former meaning
EAI	come
EAU	stop
AUEI	safe
EOAU	close
OEAO	right
UEIO	down
UOAI	less

12.1 Canonical Authority

This Version 1.0.1 master specification supersedes every pre-1.0 developmental assignment or rule that conflicts with it and clarifies Version 1.0 without changing its 308 active lexical assignments. New educational resources, translations, and community vocabulary should use this document as the reference point.

12.2 Public Versioning

Version 1.x may add compatible vocabulary, examples, documentation, empirical findings, or minor clarifications without altering the fundamental language. A future Version 2.0 should be reserved for changes that substantially alter the underlying phonology, script, or grammar.

12.3 Community Principles

14. Use only the five lexical vowels.
15. Never place identical vowels consecutively inside one word.
16. Preserve one sound per letter and one letter per sound.
17. Avoid irregular grammatical exceptions.
18. Prefer transparent compounds over needless primitive vocabulary.
19. Protect safety-critical vocabulary from acoustic confusion.
20. Prefer clarity over brevity.
21. Prefer short chained sentences over unnecessary syntactic complexity.
22. Do not introduce complexity merely because another language possesses it.

Appendix A. Quick Reference

Topic	Rule
Sounds	A /a/, E /e/, I /i/, O /o/, U /u/
Native glyphs	A=\, E=-, I=|, O=o, U=/
Phonotactics	No identical adjacent vowels within one word
Speech boundary	Careful word spaces use a short glottal interruption; a clear pause may substitute
Writing	Top-to-bottom; columns progress left-to-right
Basic order	Subject - Predicate - Object
Past	A before predicate complex
Future	E before predicate complex
Negation	I negates the following constituent
Question	O at clause end
Plural	U when needed
Modifier	Follows its head
Possession	possessed + IU + possessor
Numbers	Base five: OU 0, UA 1, UE 2, UI 3, UO 4
Clause marker	UIEO
If	UEAU
Because	UEOA
Maybe	UOEU
Unreal/counterfactual	UIOU
Complexity	End the sentence; begin another; refer back explicitly

FIVE-VOWEL LANGUAGE — Version 1.0.1

Five sounds. Five marks. One language.